NEW-ENGLAND FARMER.

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NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

CULTURE OF SPRING GRAINS.

Spring Wheat.—There are many sections where spring wheats are the only varieties which can be cultivated to advantage. In all places where snow accumulates to a great depth, the success of winter wheat is rendered uncertain, owing to the liability of its being winter-killed.

Preparation of the soil, quantity of seed, and time of sowing.—Spring wheat is usually cultivated on land that has been occupied the preceding year by some hoed crop—corn, potatoes, &c. Where there is no danger of the attack of the fly which works in the head, (the *Cecidomyia tritici*,) it is best to sow the crop as early as the state of the ground will admit, or as soon as it is fairly free from frost. One good plowing is sufficient—in fact we have known excellent crops produced by working the ground thoroughly with a cultivator harrow, the feet or teeth of which penetrate the ground and pulverize it to the depth of several inches. Manure is not usually applied to this crop. Long or unfermented manure tends to rust the straw, and on this account it is only applied to the crop of the previous year, and then it becomes so far decomposed as to be in a proper state for the wheat. The seed is usually sown on the furrow, and well harrowed in. The quantity sown per acre, is generally two bushels.

Varieties.—The kinds held in the greatest estimation in this country, are the Black Sea, Italian, and the Tea wheat. Of these, the Black Sea is the most hardy, and generally gives the best yield. This valuable variety was first brought into notice in this country by Payson Williams, Esq., of Fitchburg, Mass., some twentyfive years since, and it has now become widely disseminated. The yield of this variety varies of course with the soil and season, but perhaps 20 bushels per acre may be said to be an average crop on medium soils. We have often known upwards of 30 bushels grown per acre, and in a few instances have seen well authenticated statements of 50 bushels per acre having been produced.

Oats.—Oats are more hardy than wheat, and will grow on many soils not suitable for that grain. In many parts of Ireland, and in the greater portion of Scotland, the oat crop furnishes the only reliance for breadstuffs; oat-meal, in various forms, being the chief article of subsistence.

Oats are undoubtedly far richer in nitrogenous or muscular matter, in proportion to the weight, than wheat. A comparison, according to the analysis of Prof. Johnston, shows this. One hundred pounds each of fine wheaten flour and shelled or hulled oats, contain—

	Wheat.	*Oats.*
Muscular matter,	10 lbs.	18 lbs.
Fat,	3 do.	6 do.
Starch,	50 do.	65 do.
	63 lbs.	89 lbs.

This may serve to give some explanation of the fact that the muscular power of horses is greater when fed on oats, than when kept on any other food; and it serves also to lessen our wonder at the athletic feats, corporeal strength and power of endurance shown by the stalwart Highlander, reared on this simple but nutritious fare.

Preparation of the ground, quantity of seed, and time of sowing.—The earlier this crop can be got into the ground the better. One plowing, if well done, is generally sufficient. The seed may be sown on the furrow, not less than three bushels to the acre. Three bushels is the quantity we have formerly been in the habit of sowing per acre; but we have observed that nearly all the extraordinary large yields which have been lately obtained, were from a larger quantity of seed than is generally used, and we should not hesitate to use three and a half bushels.

Peas.—Peas, in many parts of the country, are a valuable crop. Like other leguminous plants, they rather ameliorate than exhaust the soil, and in this respect furnish an excellent preparation for other crops. In some districts they are adopted as a "green fallow" for winter wheat, with excellent effects, as they leave the ground clean and mellow.

Peas are highly nutritious as food for animals. The proportion of nitrogenous or muscular matter they yield on analysis, is much greater than is given by any kind of grain, and they are often used, either by themselves or combined with oats, for fattening swine, as well as for feeding horses.

Peas are sometimes sown with oats, in the proportion of one-third peas to two-thirds oats. A variety of peas which has rather a light vine is preferable, as the ranker kinds are apt to overrun the oats, and lay too close on the ground, but the straw of the oats will hold up the lighter ones, so that both the oats and peas will fill well.

Preparation of the soil, time of sowing, and quantity of seed.—A loamy soil, rather inclining to clay, is best adapted to peas. Early sowing generally gives the best crop. Very hot weather is unfavorable to their filling, and it is hence advisable to have the crop well advanced before the hottest part of the season comes on. A sod which was plowed the previous autumn, well harrowed, makes a good bed for peas, but any good sward well broken up and mellowed, will answer—and if sod ground cannot be had, that which has been under cultivation one or more seasons may, be taken. No manure is generally needed; but if any is put on, it should be a small quantity of that which is thoroughly rotted, spread on the furrow and harrowed in. A large quantity of manure, or that which is in a green state, makes too great a growth of vines, and tends to blight.

The quantity sown per acre varies somewhat with the kind of pea, some being of a more spreading growth than others, and requiring less seed. It is usual also to sow a larger quantity of very large peas, than of small ones, because the number of peas or germs is greater in the same measure of small ones. The large Marrowfats, for instance, are double the size of some others. From three to four bushels of seed per acre is the quantity usually sown.

The covering of the seed is best performed by a small plow, or by a set of small plows in a frame, called a "gang plow." It is difficult to bury peas with a harrow, many being always left on the surface. A depth of about two inches is the proper one for covering. A good way is to pass the harrow over the field after the peas are sown, which will prevent them from rolling into rows or bunches, and then plow them in with a shallow furrow. The varieties adapted to field culture, are the Canada field pea, the marrowfat, and the black-eyed pea. The yield on good soil is from thirty to forty bushels per acre.

Garden peas, or those for early marketing, should be put in the ground as early as possible. Select warm, dry ground—it can hardly be too dry for *early* peas—and deposit the seed in rows or broadcast, as soon as the frost is out. The earliest varieties are the Early Washington, Cedo Nulli, and Prince Albert.

To destroy the pea-weevil, *(Bruchus pisa)* which is so troublesome, immerse the peas in water, boiling hot, for two minutes, then take them out, and mix plaster, dry ashes, or air-slacked lime with them, till they will readily separate in sowing or planting. No fears need be entertained that the hot water will prevent the peas from vegetating—not one in twenty will be hurt at all.—*Alb. Cult.*

Mr Quincy's Address.—The address of Mr Quincy, in your last number, I have read with unmixed pleasure. It is so simply yet elegantly expressed, so true to nature, so confirmed by universal observation and experience, that I involuntarily wished it were printed in letters of gold, and sent to every family in the United States. Let farmers read it, and learn not only to be content with their condition, but to see that they move in an elevated sphere, and occupy an enviable place. Professional men of every name—merchants, and men of every class—may in the perusal of it, derive both pleasure and profit. I would suggest the propriety of its being printed in the form of a tract, with a view to its wider circulation. If no better way be found, let the American Tract Society adopt it, and scatter it broadcast over the land.—*H. A. P., in Alb. Cult.*

Subsoil Plowing.—W. B. Hamilton, of Philadelphia, recommends the subsoil plow as a means of guarding crops from injury, either by drought or wet. In a dry season, he thinks the mellowing of the soil to the depth of 18 inches, as might be done with this implement, theroots of the plants would penetrate and find moisture, perhaps sufficient to mature the crop, though none should fall from the clouds while it was growing. The advantage, he thinks, would be particularly conspicuous on soils of a clayey character, with a tenacious subsoil. On the other hand, he remarks that in a wet season, clayey soils hold water "like a jug," and when saturated and exposed to a hot sun, the plants are "scalded to death." By subsoiling, or, as he expresses it, "by having the bottom of the jug knocked out, the surplus moisture would escape, leaving the soil in a condition to yield a good return."—*Alb. Cult.*

MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Award of Special Premiums.

At an adjourned meeting of the Society, held Feb. 21st, the President, M. P. Wilder, Esq., in the Chair—

Mr. Walker, Chairman of the Fruit Committee, made the following report:

The Committee on Fruits, in accordance with a vote of the Society, referring to them the expediency of awarding a Special Premium to the Messrs. Hovey, of Boston, for their superior Strawberry, known as "*Hovey's Seedling*," beg leave to report, that they have attended to the duty assigned to them, and, after due deliberation,

Voted, unanimously, To recommend to the Society, that a Silver Pitcher, or other piece of plate, with a suitable inscription, of the value of *Fifty Dollars*, be awarded to Messrs. Hovey, as a Special Premium, for their Seedling Strawberry, called "*Hovey's Seedling*."

Here it would be the duty of your committee to close their report, but in the present instance they feel they may be pardoned, if not justified, in further stating, *that after a trial of twelve years*, they know of no strawberry of superior merit, and where it is cultivated near other varieties, it will prove one of the *best* where all are *good*.

For the Committee,

Sam'l Walker, *Chm'n.*

Mr Breck, Chairman of the Flower Committee, made the following report:

At a meeting of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, on Saturday, Feb. 14, 1846, a vote was passed, directing the Committee on Flowers to take *special notice* of the fine seedling Camellias exhibited at that time by Marshall P. Wilder, President of the Society.

Agreeably to this vote, the Flower Committee submit the following report:

The number of seedling Camellias exhibited was five. Two of them were of surpassing beauty and perfection. As the committee have had the pleasure of often examining the extensive collection of the President, as well as those of other gentlemen in the vicinity, embracing the most perfect varieties known among amateurs, they feel themselves sufficiently acquainted with this beautiful class of flowers, to judge the comparative merits of the seedlings under consideration, and they have no hesitation in pronouncing them as varieties of the *very first order*, and such as will be difficult to surpass in this or any other country. The production of two such remarkable varieties, by one person, we believe unprecedented, and will reflect much honor upon our President abroad, as well as upon the Society of which he is the head.

We, therefore, recommend that a gratuity be awarded to the President, for these two superb American Camellias, and that it consist of a Piece of Plate of the value of *Fifty Dollars*, and of such form and design as he may elect.

Jos. Breck, *Chm'n.*

Description of the Seedlings.

No. 1. Camellia japonica, var. *Wilderi.*

Leaves one and a half inch broad, and three long, oval, accuminate, slightly dentated, a very dark green, with prominent midrib; petioles short; a shrub of free, upright, but rather slender growth; buds quite round, with pale-green scales; flower medium size, three and a half to four inches in diameter. Color delicate clear rose; petals 75 to 80 in number, imbricated, of the most perfect rose-leaf shape, and arranged with most exquisite regularity, from the circumference to the centre: corolla very round, persistent, free in its inflorescence, every flower expanding perfectly, retaining its beauty for a long time.

The superiority of this variety, when compared with those established favorites, the old double White, Lady Hume, imbricata, and others, is its beautiful round petal, with scarcely a serrature or indentation on the edge.

Raised from the seed of the single red Camellia, fertilized by Camellia japonica, var. punctata: the mother plant and all the stock, with the exception of a single graft, having been destroyed by fire, in the year 1841.

No. 2. Camellia japonica, var. *Mrs. Abby Wilder.*

The name was given by the committee, in honor of the lady of the President,. This variety is a very beautiful one—a vigorous shrub of upright growth and strong branches; foliage large and handsome; leaves four inches long, by two and a half broad, roundish oval, a little reflexed coarsely dentated, accuminate, with pale prominent midrib and nerves; yellowish green, resembling in color those of Camellia japonica Lady Hume; bud round with pale green scales; flower large, four inches or more in diameter, thick, full and perfect; petals of beautiful form, very numerous, 90 to 100 in number; the exterior rows broad, circular, gradually diminishing in size to the centre, and arranged with great regularity; color white, with an occasional stripe of light rose, after the manner of Camellia japonica Duchesse d' Orleans; corolla very round and of great depth.

Produced from seed of Camellia japonica var. Middlemist.

The other varieties were not so remarkable as those described, but still worthy of notice, and equal in beauty to many varieties highly esteemed. As they have now bloomed for the first time, their character cannot be justly determined.

No. 3 is a flower above medium size; color purplish crimson; fine shape, large petals, rose-leaved, perfectly arranged, compact with a full centre.

No. 4. A beautiful flower, of medium size; color of the outer petals carmine, fading out to the centre to a fine deep rose color; petals spirally arranged.

No. 5. Color bright rose, blotched with white; similar to Camellia japonica imbricata, but the color not quite so brilliant, and about the same size.

Having seen only the flowers of the three last varieties without the foliage, we are not able to give a full description; but it is not these varieties that the committee would point out to the Society as worthy of the gratuity, but those first described Camellias japonica Wilderi and Mrs. Abby Wilder.

All which is respectfully submitted.

Jos. Breck,
Chairman of the Flower Com.

It was voted that the foregoing reports be entered upon the records, and published in the transactions of the Society.

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Saturday, Feb. 28, 1846.—At a meeting of the Committee on Flowers, held this day, the subject of the new class of Roses produced by Samuel Feast, Esq., of Baltimore, was discussed.

The committee were unanimous in the opinion that some token of grateful remembrance is due to Mr Feast, from the Mass. Hort. Society, for the valuable varieties of Roses he has produced by cross impregnation, particularly the "Queen of the Prairies," which has given so general satisfaction to florists and others, and for which they feel under great obligations to this enterprising cultivator.

Mr Feast has given the type of a new class of roses, in his new variety, *Rosa rubifolia*, var. Queen of the Prairies. It is of the most hardy character; enduring the most severe New England winter, without injury, even to its tender extremities; of most luxuriant growth—making in good soils, 15 to 20 feet of wood in a season. The flowers very double; color, light crimson, inclining to rosy lilac; produced in large clusters, on lateral branches; in bloom the beginning of July, after common hardy roses are out of flower.

This rose is without a rival, in our climate, for pillars, arbors, &c. Its only deficiency appears to be a want of fragrance.

We trust, by the farther efforts of Mr Feast, we shall yet be in possession of a variety having this desirable quality.

It was voted that the committee recommend that the Society's *Large Gold Medal* be presented to Samuel Feast, Esq., of Baltimore, for the production of his seedling Rosa rubifolia var. Queen of the Prairies.

(Signed) Jos. Breck, *Chm'n.*

The Society voted to accept the foregoing report.

For the New England Farmer.

WHEAT GROWING.

Mr Breck—Two writers in your last number—"L. B." and "Authentic"—oppose the views advanced in my former communication concerning the raising of wheat. While I respect their opinions, and admit the full weight of their facts, I must, nevertheless, remain among the doubters, as to the practicability of raising wheat successfully on the generality of farms in Massachusetts.

But, far be it from me to offer any discouragement to those who would attempt the enterprise of wheat-raising. By all means, let those who *can* raise wheat, *do* it;—and teach others, also, if they can, how they may raise it. It is bad policy and poor economy for the farmer to "put his hand in his pocket" for any article which he can produce on his own land;—and certainly, if it can be demonstrated that wheat can be raised by our farmers in general, as "Authentic" says it may be, by "*action* and *encouragement*," then the sooner this is demonstrated the better,—and I wish full success to those who may attempt it.

I will only add, to clear myself from suspicion, that I am not one of the "*sages* of old Cape Cod," mentioned by "Authentic," who believe that the difficulties which are claimed to exist in the culture of wheat with us, are judgments sent by heaven, for our fathers' sin in "hanging the Quakers";—but I *do* believe there are such difficulties,—and the assertion of that writer that "not one in fifty of our farmers" attempt the raising of wheat, seems to me an evidence in support of my belief. But I may have mistaken the nature of these difficulties. Perhaps they can be overcome: I hope they can be: and they who engage to prove they can be, have, unfeignedly, my encouragement and best wishes for success.

D. of the East.

Caution.—An old gentleman planted his onions close to his poppies, and the consequence was, he says, that they grew so sleepy that he had hard work to get them out of their beds.

From the London Gardener's Chronicle.

SALT AS FOOD.

It is to be regretted that there are so many opposite opinions entertained by parties on agricultural subjects. It is in consequence of such a difference of opinion existing on the use of salt in the feeding of stock that I am induced to trouble you at present. In No. 2 of the "Journal of Agriculture" for Scotland, page 136, Mr James Ol. Fennell, writes unequivocally in favor of the use of salt in feeding, and quotes from a host of authors in support of his statement, of which those that are most to the point, I beg to offer to your notice, viz., Matthew Aphonin, a Russian naturalist, remarks that "Oxen fatten very quickly upon the sea coasts where the Arrowgrass (Triglochin maritimum,) their favorite food abounds;" "and if this be so," adds Mr Fennell, "it is probably ascribable to the saline nature of the plant, and to the sea breezes containing particles of salt, which appear necessary to stimulate their digestive organs, and therefore conducive to their health." Dickson, in his "Husbandry of the Ancients," tells us they were accustomed to prepare the straw for feeding stock, by keeping it for a considerable time steeped in brine; that it was then dried, rolled up in bundles, and given to oxen instead of hay. Dr. Brownrigg, in his "Art of Making common Salt" (1748,) remarks that "Black cattle and sheep take a pleasure in licking it (salt,) and by it are preserved from many diseases; they also thrive to admiration upon it." Sir John Sinclair tells us that a Mr Bracebridge, "drenched some rotten sheep night and morning with strong brine, after which he did not lose one; they became fat, and the meat fine and good, as if the animals had never been affected." Mr Fennell also states that, "the fattening property of our own salt marshes is well known to graziers and farmers." As I think I have now shown that there is a notion that the use of salt is favorable to fattening, I proceed now to inform you that it is also said that "in fattening salt must be avoided" In No. 5, page 473 of the Journal already named, we find an admirable article on "Animal Life," by that talented advocate of "Shelter," Mr Donald Bain, of Edinburg. The following quotation he gives from Liebig's "Animal Chemistry:—The presence of free muriatic acid in the stomach, and that of soda in the blood, prove, beyond all doubt, the necessity of common salt for the organic processes; but the quantities of soda required by animals of different classes to support the vital processes are singularly unequal. Again, it cannot be accidental that the life, the development of a plant, is dependant on the presence of the alkalies which it extracts from the soil. This plant serves as food to an extensive class of animals, and in these animals the vital process again is most closely connected with the presence of these alkalies. We find the alkalies in the bile, and their presence in the animal body is the indispensable condition for producing the first food of the young animals; for without an abundant supply of potash, the production of milk becomes impossible." "Alkalies," adds Mr Bain, "are useful to general health therefore, and indispensable to giving milk. But in fattening, salt must be avoided;" "for it is worthy of observation," says Professor Liebig, "in reference to the production of fat, that the absence of common salt (a compound of sodium which furnishes soda to the animal organism,) is favorable to the formation of fat; and that the fattening of an animal is rendered impossible, when we add to its food an excess of salt, although short of the quantity required to produce to produce a purgative effect." Mr Bain now goes on to state that "It is possible that this may account for the fact that Islands of Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney, and the British Islands generally, being loaded with spray from the sea, their cows are excellent milkers, while the beef of all their cattle is, I believe, indifferent. Our Scottish feeders have at once found out that Grass too much impregnated with salt does not feed, and they have rejected it accordingly. May it not, however, be useful in producing milk?" I trust I have laid the matter properly before you, and now wait the result; but before leaving the subject, I might inquire, seeing that all agree that salt is favorable to health, is fattening a healthy process?—*Young Scotland.*

☞We believe Liebig in one of his works, contends that *fat* is not a healthy production.—Ed.

From the Maine Farmer.

BEANS WITH INDIAN CORN.

During the last year I wrote a short communication for your paper, in which I stated the advantages which would probably result from planting beans between the rows of corn. I cannot say that my experience the last year proves conclusively that to plant beans among corn, under all circumstances, in good policy. My cornfield was pretty rich, and rather liberally manured. Upon about one half of the field I planted beans between the rows. During the summer the corn and the beans looked finely, but the result was not what I anticipated. The ears of corn were not so large nor so well filled upon the part of the field where the beans were planted as upon the other part of the field, and the crop of beans, when threshed, proved to be rather light.

I visited a field, belonging to a neighbor of mine, planted with corn and beans between the rows. This field was very fertile, having been abundantly manured. The owner, a good practical farmer, observed that he should have a "swamp" of corn stalks and bean vines, but a light crop of corn and beans. He gave his opinion decidedly against planting beans among corn.

Perhaps on land moderately fertile or not very highly manured, it may be good policy to plant beans among corn, but on land very fertile or highly manured, such a practice may not always be advisable. Land highly manured will most commonly make a great *show* of weeds after haying, and these should be removed, always taking especial care not to injure the roots of the growing corn and luxuriant bean vines, and pumpkin vines form rather a bad obstruction to the careful hand of the farmer, or to the hand hoe.

I intend to prepare one field for corn, the present year, and manure rather liberally, broad cast, and also in the hill, and I think I shall neither plant beans nor pumpkin seeds among the corn. I intend to plant my beans in a field, separately. Some think that pumpkins will yield more abundantly when planted along with corn. I intend to prepare a small field, and plant it in rows four feet apart, putting a pumpkin seed in once to every two hills of corn. The pumpkin vines may indeed diminish the value of the corn crop, but where the main object is to obtain a crop of pumpkins, it should not be regretted. By experimenting we may add, every year, more or less to the sum of agricultural knowledge.

But, Mr Editor, our ablest and best farmers are silent—why will they not communicate?—When will public opinion say arouse to action? When shall we witness a proper union of efforts among our farmers? J. E. Rolfe.

MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At an adjourned meeting of the Society, held on Saturday, Feb. 14th, the President in the chair—

Mr Walker, chairman of the Fruit Committee, made the following report in relation to the donation given to the Society:

Whereas, a liberal individual, interested in the science of horticulture, has placed at the disposal of the Mass. Hort. Society, the sum of $300, to be awarded in premiums for fruits, at such times and in such a manner as the Society may deem expedient, with the understanding that a condensed list, to be called "*the Special Prize List of Fruits,*" consisting of such varieties of apples, pears, plums, cherries and peaches, which shall have been exhibited at the hall of the Society, and that the same shall be published yearly under the signature of the chairman of the Committee of Fruits—therefore,

Voted, That the Committee on Fruits be instructed to offer 20 special premiums of $5 each, for 3 successive years, viz: 1846, 1847, 1848, *in addition* to the Society's prizes, and that said Committee make up, at the end of the present season, and each season, a "*Special Prize List of Fruits,*" consisting of the best 12 var. of apples, 12 var. of pears, 6 var. of cherries, 6 var. of plums, 6 var. of peaches.

And the committee are further requested to place the name and residence of the cultivator of each variety placed on said prize list, with such other notice or remarks as the committee may deem proper, and lay the same before the Society on the 1st Saturday of January of each year.

In accordance with the above vote, the Committee on Fruits respectfully submit the following

Special Prize List of Fruits,

To be awarded in the year 1846:

Twenty prizes of five dollars each.

2 prizes for the two best var. and specimens of summer apples.
2 prizes for the best two var. and specimens of autumn apples.
2 prizes for the best two var. and specimens of winter apples.
2 prizes for the best two var. and specimens of summer pears.
2 prizes for the two best var. and specimens of autumn pears.
2 prizes for the two best var. and specimens of winter pears.
3 prizes for the three best var. of cherries.
3 prizes for the three best var. of plums.
2 prizes for the two best var. of peaches.

20 prizes at $5 each—$100.

The specimens presented for the above prizes, shall consist of not less than three specimens of each variety of apples, pears and peaches, not less than one dozen plums, and two dozen cherries; all of which shall be at the disposal of the Committee of Fruits.

Per order, S. Walker, *Chm'n.*

Liquid Cement.—An excellent liquid cement is made of glue two parts, and sugar two parts. Dissolve the ingredients by placing the vessel in hot water, and then stir in one part of alcohol.

NINTH AGRICULTURAL MEETING AT THE STATE HOUSE.

Vice President Page, of New Bedford, in the Chair. Subject—*Fruit and Fruit Trees*—continued.

Mr. John Owen ,of Cambridge, commenced the discussion by remarking, that at the close of the last meeting he had been invited to give some account of his method of curing warts on Plum trees and to open the present meeting, and he had consented to do so. He had since felt not a little distrust of all remedies, however successful even varied experiments might seem to prove them, whose mode of operation was not fully understood. It has been said, what is one man's meat is another's poison. If this is true of animals, it is especially so of plants. Not only man but most animals, have to a considerable extent, the power of accommodating themselves to the greatest changes of food and climate, whereas plants have comparatively very little of this power. The influence of soil and climate, and the adaptation of manures, a correct knowledge of the laws of growth and of the enemies of vegetation, with the means of their extermination were subjects of the highest importance to the agriculturist. No method of culture can claim to be regarded as an improvement which is not established on a philosophical acquaintance with the nature and relations of each individual species composing the vegetable kingdom. He hoped the time was coming when the processes of culture would have a scientific basis and no longer be dependent on a blind practice. In regard however to some of the evils which beset the path of the cultivator even partial and temporary relief is so desirable that he is often ready to adopt the practice of another, trusting to chance alone for the result. The wart on the plum tree is one of these evils. No certain cure has hitherto been provided for it although there has been some successful culture. In giving an account of his remedy he now proposed to read to the meeting a communication which he had addressed to Dr. Dana, of Lowell, and Dr. Harris, of Cambridge, with their replies.

Cambridge, March 6th, 1846.

Dear Sir—Having discovered, as I believe, a remedy for the wart in the Plum tree, I am desirous of making it known to the public. My object is not, like that of certain English and American cultivators, to obtain compensation, but simply to publish, without the expectation of reward, the result of a few experiments, and thus to promote the cause of horticulture. I therefore take the liberty to ask, in behalf of the said cause, your opinion of the remedy. The following is a brief account of the experiments:

In the spring of 1841, I had a Washington Plum tree badly affected by a wart upon the main stem, commencing a little above the lower branches, exactly in a fork formed by the stem and one of the principal limbs, extending about three inches on the limb and about ten inches up the stem, and covering quite one-half of the bark for that distance. Amputation seemed the only thing to be done, and had it been merely a limb which was diseased, I should have cut it off without hesitation. But the part most affected was the trunk itself. While considering what I had better do, the appetency of the plum tree for salt, occurred to me, and I reasoned thus: if the plum tree was found to flourish best in those soils in which the muriate of soda (common salt) abounded, which appears to be a well established fact, then, disease of this tree might arise from the absence or an insufficient supply of the salt, and if so, the tree could only be restored to a healthy state by furnishing to the soil what it so essentially lacked. I accordingly salted the earth about the tree. But here a serious difficulty presented itself. The case is that of a valuable tree, and the disease is upon the very trunk, and may soon girdle it. The question arose, cannot the canker be arrested and possibly cured, by a direct application of the brine to the part affected, while the permanent remedy is provided by the slower operation of dry salt applied at the roots? I resolved to make the experiment, which I did in the following manner: Having cut out the excrescence with some care, I washed the wound with a strong solution of salt and water, and awaited the result with not a little anxiety; for I confess I had my fears that the lotion might have been too powerful, and by absorption, prove injurious instead of being beneficial to the tree. All apprehensions of this sort, however, were speedily removed. The wound began to heal, and the canker, though not entirely cured, was materially checked. As the wound continued to heal, the wash was freely applied several times during the summer.

In the spring of 1842, I again used the knife, cutting out whatever canker had appeared since the first operation, and applied the same wash as before. During that season, the new wounds gradually closed over without any further appearance of the wart, and the part was thus restored to a perfectly healthy condition. From that time to the present, the tree has shown not the slightest symptom of the old disease. It has been regularly washed with some solution of salt, once or twice every year, in 1844 and since—salt-ley (the liquid remaining in the soapboiler's kettle after the removal of the soap,) being substituted for the pure brine.

In the spring of 1844, the wart again made its appearance on several of my young Damson trees. The disease being confined to small limbs, and having nearly girdled them before I discovered it, I should at once have cut them off, but for the desire to pursue my experiment with salt in a different way. I proposed to ascertain its effect upon the wart itself, while still connected with the tree. For this purpose, I fastened a porous substance around each wart, and kept it filled with ley, which was completely saturated with salt. Here the effect was even more remarkable than in the first experiment. In a few weeks, the warts were completely destroyed, and cracked so as to be easily picked off, leaving the adjoining bark and wood perfectly sound.

Such are the facts. I have formed a theory to explain them; but my limited acquaintance with Chemistry, Botany and Entomology, would prevent my speaking of it with much confidence, were I to mention it at all. These three sciences—a knowledge of which is so essential to Agriculture, and without which our best practice is but empiricism—I am confidently persuaded, are yet to establish principles and methods of culture, the faintest idea of which has hardly been conceived of, much less has the glorious reality broke upon the world.

In the meantime, let careful and assiduous cultivators continue to record and publish their observations. Let amateurs, especially, be invited to make all their experiments with a strict regard to science, not always having an eye to the immediate profit of a garden, but more frequently to the discovery of truth and the good of posterity.

In conclusion, I will merely say, that the remedy here proposed for the wart in the plum tree, is both specific and simple, and seems to be established; but though urged to publish it by those who have long been devoted to horticulture, I have such an abhorrence of all quackery, that I prefer not to do so without the favorable opinion of those whose professional or favorite pursuits give them a better right to be heard than myself.

Very respectfully, yours,

JNO. OWEN.

—

Lowell, March 9, '46.

Dear Sir—In answer to your letter of the 6th inst., which I have just received, allow me to say, that as its subject is one to which my attention has not been turned, I cannot give any opinion, either entomological or physiological, about it.

As regards any chemical action of your remedy, I want more light, before I can venture to form a theory. In its present state, its action is analagous to that of green or white vitriol on the "ring-worm" affecting the human skin, or to alum on canker of the mouth. As in these cases the remedy does not elucidate the nature of the diseased action, so neither would that indicate the remedy;—and your application differs from these only in being the result of hypothesis, while the others were probably accidental.

The *facts* are of great value, and if more extended trials shall confirm your observations, the remedy will make its way in the world, without the aid of any theory to account for its action.

With regard, your ob't serv't,

SAM'L L. DANA.

J. Owen, Esq., Cambridge.

—

John Owen, Esq.—Dear Sir,—It is not in my power to give to your interesting communication the attention that it deserves. You are aware that the greatly increased duties of my office have driven me from the field of science, and leave me without leisure or inclination to make experiments and observations in any department of natural history. It is with some reluctance, therefore, that I send to you the following hastily written remarks.

There is a difference of opinion respecting the origin of the warts on plum trees. On this subject, allow me to extract a sentence from my "Treatise on Insects Injurious to Vegetation": "Further observation seems to be wanting before it can be proved that the cankerous warts on plum and cherry trees arise from the irritating punctures of the plum-weevils and of the other insects that occasionally make these warts their places of abode. My reasons for entertaining the doubts implied in this quotation, are these: Warts sometimes appear on large branches, the bark of which is too thick and tough to have been punctured or stung by the plum-weevil. Many of the warts do not have insects in them; or rather, I have often failed to find insects in them, during the very time when the insects should have been present, in the grub state, if the weevils had previously laid their eggs there. Many of the old warts exhibit no trace of the operations of insects. The warts are occasionally inhabited by at least three different kinds of insects. It is not reasonable to suppose that each one of these different kinds of insects, would produce one and the same kind of disease on the tree. The warts, in their young and growing state, are spongy and succulent, and contain a supply of food well suited to the grubs of the plum-weevil. It is, therefore, not at all surprising that this weevil should occasionally deposit her eggs in these juicy excrescences. Whether the plum-weevil ever stings the tree for any other purpose than to lay eggs in the wounds, is not known to me.

Are the warts on the plum tree local diseases, or do they arise from some general affection? If they be local diseases, then applications made directly

to them, may be expected to cure them, or amputation of the diseased part may suffice, whether they are caused by the punctures of insects or by some other agency. On the other hand, if they be merely the outward indications of some general disease, then a change of soil and exposure may have an effect in arresting or preventing the disease.

Your experiments are very interesting and satisfactory so far as they go. They suggest the inquiry whether the warts on the plum tree were destroyed by the local application of salt to them, or by the salt applied to the roots of the tree, or by both of these applications together. Further and varied experiments seem to be necessary to settle these questions. Your success warrants a full and fair trial of your remedy in various ways.

Should it appear, by direct experiment or by chemical analysis, that salt supplies an element *necessary* to the healthy condition of the plum tree, whether it acts in the soil merely as a stimulant upon the roots, or whether it constitutes an essential part of the juices or of the structure of the tree, then the mixture of salt with the soil may be expected to have a beneficial effect upon the tree. Your theory derives some support from the success of our neighbor, Mr Pond, in the cultivation of the Plum tree, upon a soil impregnated with salt. May your own experiments secure to you, and point out to others, the means of obtaining the same success.

Yours, truly,

THADDEUS WM. HARRIS.

Mr. Owen observed, that the case of Mr Samuel Pond, of Cambridgeport, mentioned by Dr Harris, was exactly in point. Mr Pond was perhaps the most successful cultivator of plums and plum trees in the United States. His practice was to apply the strongest salt-ley to all his plum trees every spring. They were never affected by warts. His soil was not naturally favorable to the plum, being light. He derived his first hint for the use of salt from the effect of an inundation of the sea in the spring of 1832 which buried his whole nursery four feet under water. The consequence was the destruction of his entire collection of shrubs and trees with the exception of his plum trees. These ever afterward flourished with new life and vigor.

Mr Shurtleff, of Brookline, stated that in 1837, he moved to a place on which were a number of plum trees infected with warts: they gave a profusion of bloom, but produced no fruit. He examined the burns or warts, and found a larva or worm. Having witnessed the beneficial effects of salt in the human system in destroying worms, he thought it might be used with as good success in destroying them on trees. He took salt from old beef brine, and applied two quarts to each tree, in February, having previously cut out the warts, and there was no return of the disease: he afterwards had an abundance of fruit: he has since pursued the same course every year. The only difficulty is in the overbearing of the trees, the fruit of which, unless thinned out, is rather small. There was danger in putting on brine: a hired man of his incautiously put on a gallon round one tree, and killed it. He had applied salt to the warts, but believed it was the salt strewn upon the ground that destroyed them. He found there was a sensible taste of salt in the foliage of the Plum trees that had been treated with salt, and water in which the leaves had been steeped, indicated the same substance, and he believed the salt entered into the sap of the tree. He had found salt too forcing for the peach, cherry and apple, and was fit for nothing but asparagus, the plum tree, and onions.

In gathering winter fruit, it has been his practice to pick his apples about the 20th of September, and thought they kept better, and that the flavor was finer, than when suffered to remain longer on the tree. There was no general rule for picking pears: some require to be picked before maturity, and others not.

He had succeeded in getting Pears from seed in 8 or 9 years: a cross of the St. Michael and Gansell's Bergamot, and proved an excellent variety. Fruit trees may be forced into early bearing by frequent transplantings and heading down. Trees will not grow so large where the tap root is destroyed, and probably be less durable—but the quality of fruit would undoubtedly be better. To obtain any kind of fruit in the highest perfection, thorough cultivation was absolutely necessary. It was folly to expect fine fruit without it.

Gen. Newhall, of Lynnfield, in relation to gathering fruit early, said a neighbor of his had an order for 100 barrels of winter apples to ship; the vessel was to sail the 20th of September, and it was necessary that they should be delivered before that time. His friend hesitated about executing the order, on account of its being so early, but finally consented, and the apples were shipped, and reached the place of destination in fine order, and better flavored than those generally sent, that were gathered a month later. Mr Newhall has since picked his winter apples as early as the 20th of Sept. Seven years ago, a severe storm occurred about the middle of the month, (Sept.) which took off at least half his winter fruit: thinking he would make clean work of it, he picked the balance, and never had his fruit keep better. He thought the flavor was better than when fully matured on the tree.

He had noticed in previous discussions, the difference of opinion relative to the deterioration of fruits. He believed in the doctrine that fruits did run out, and cited as proof the Old Blue Pearmain which had been known in Essex county, ever since the county was settled, and a great favorite, was not now worth cultivating. A number of years ago, he set out an orchard in which were included 12 Blue Pearmains: not one of the twelve has ever produced a barrel of apples, while the other varieties, set at the same time, had produced 5 or 6 barrels each; and he had now grafted the Blue Pearmains over. He would not recommend setting out any variety of fruit which had been cultivated a century or more.

He had found salt useful to the Plum tree; was in the practice of strewing it under the tree in April, so as to make the ground look white. He had also strewed salt under his apple trees, where the apple worm had been very annoying, and the fruit almost ruined: it had the effect of destroying the worm, and the next year the crop of apples were very fair. He had used 4 quarts of salt to each tree.

[Continued on next page.]

From the Farmer's Monthly Visitor.

GREEN AND DRY WOOD.

From experiments made for the purpose, it has appeared that a very considerable portion of the heat given out in the combustion of green, or recently cut fire-wood, is expended in converting the water into steam, in which latter form it passes up the chimney. This heat is entirely lost for the purpose of warming a room, or for the various objects for which fuel may be used.

Of a cold winter morning, the kindling of a fire is a sorry business, where the wood is unseasoned; a sort of punishment, and not a light one, to whoever may be engaged in it. It increases the reluctance of *getting up*—thereby rendering persons late risers in the morning, and putting behindhand every occupation for the short winter days, and the time lost each day in overcoming the reluctance of the fuel to burn, is an additional loss. Therefore, we have, already, loss of heat, loss by reluctance, with loss of time, and a sort of blue punishment to finish their part of the disadvantage.

Well, what next? Why, if possible, it happens to be our desire, worse than all these—*loss of temper*. The dog is kicked away from the fire shivering; puss is broomed away, and the poor little white-headed urchins, as they come creeping towards the smoking heap, are wished that "they would keep in bed until the fire burns." Then—

"My dear, what makes you in such bad humor this morning?" "Bad humor, indeed! Who can help it, with nothing better than snow to make a fire with, such a morning as this? You may thank your stars if you get a mouthful of breakfast before noon."

"Don't be so furious. I wish that you had the temper of your sister Placid: *she* never complains, I am told, and makes the best of every thing."

"And well she may! well she may! She has a *husband*, and I only a *man*. Every stick of wood she has to burn was cut one year ago this winter, has been split and piled away in the wood-house for three months at least."

LIME—ROTTING SODS.

Mr Breck—Please bring the following to the notice of the Editor of the "*Massachusetts Ploughman*," who, in a late number of his paper, said, in reply to some queries of a correspondent, that instead of *rotting* sods, lime would tend to *preserve* them. Experimental results are the best test of theories.

Yours, SS.

How Mr Z. Made Compost.—A writer in the Farmers' Cabinet, over the signature of Z., after making some remarks upon Judge Peters' mode of composting, gives an experiment of his own, as follows: He pared off the surface of a rough piece of heavy land, about six inches deep. He then plowed the ground where the heap was to be made. Quick lime from the kiln was spread upon the ground, and then layers of sods were put on about the thickness of a foot, and then lime alternately, until the heap was five feet high. He then finished by covering the whole heap with sods, in order to keep the heat in. In a very little time, says he, the whole heap was smoking like a volcano, and it required pretty constant attendance to keep the cracks well covered with sods, and beating them down, the heat being quite intense, and sufficient to kill all animal as well as vegetable life. It was worked over and carried out as a top-dressing to young clover, as fine as ashes, and much in appearance and smell like soapers' waste.—*Maine Far.*

☞We once pared a piece of land, the sods of which were of the toughest kind. We wished, if possible, to make these available for use, and, (not without some doubts of success in the experiment,) we directed the laborers to put the sods in piles, mixing in lime—(half air-slacked, we think.) This was in the fall. Upon opening the piles in the spring, we found the whole mass almost completely pulverized, and in a fine state for the making of Dahlia beds, &c. This fact, coupled with that above stated, convinces us that lime *does*—as Dr. Jackson says—operate to *rot* sods and like substances, notwithstanding the assertions of some to the contrary.—*Ed. N. E. Far.*

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

Edited by Joseph Breck.

Boston, Wednesday, March 18, 1846.

NINTH AGRICULTURAL MEETING AT THE STATE HOUSE.

(Continued from the preceding page.)

Mr Glazier, of Ashburnham, had experimented, on a small scale, in the cultivation of the apple. Three years since, he spread a cartload of sawdust under each tree. It completely destroyed the grass under the trees, and they grew more the two following years than they had for the five previous ones. The fruit was also larger and fairer. In hoeing away the sawdust, he found the surface of the ground covered with numerous fibres from the trees, and the soil had the appearance of being as highly impregnated with saltpetre as is generally the case under old buildings.

He thought this mode of manuring more congenial to the tree, than the use of animal manures. He had taken the idea from nature, in observing the luxuriance of the trees in the forests, where leaves and other vegetable substances, are the only manure.

From what he had seen of a clump of apple trees in the centre of a thick woods, which produced well, and from trees planted near each other on his ground, he concluded that trees would succeed best if set nearer than was customary.

His soil was a light sandy loam, and suffered very much from drought.

Mr Earle, of Worcester, coincided with Dr. Shurtleff in relation to thorough cultivation. It was highly important, especially with the Pear. Without it, disappointment would ensue.

If it was an object to have a tree bear early, it might be forced by frequent moving and close pruning: the tree, however, would be stunted. A seedling pear may be made to show fruit in five years, if grafted on an old well cultivated, bearing tree. Some kinds of fruit come into bearing much earlier than others. The Dix pear is 15 or 20 years coming into bearing, if budded on a young tree; whereas the Bartlett frequently bears in 3 years. The Dunmore is a fine large fruit, almost equal to the Bartlett, and bears early. The Andrews, Flemish Beauty, and Louise Bonne d' Jersey, are also early bearers.

The Surpasse Virgalieu is one of the best. The Beurre d' Aremburg is one of the most valuable winter pears, bears early, and the fruit ripens as easy as a Baldwin apple. The Easter Beurre is a free bearing tree, but in his experience has not ripened well. In warm situations it would do well, and there was no better variety, but he should not recommend it for exposed situations in the country.

The Monsieur Le Cure is a first rate cooking pear, and an abundant bearer. The Napoleon is a beautiful and delicious fruit, when well ripened, but in exposed situations it does not do well. The Beurre Diel is a first rate fruit, and generally ripens well, but he did not recommend it for high locations, or northern portions of the State.

Mr E. spoke of the Beurre Bosc, and many others, as being excellent varieties.

The Early Sweetwater Peach is more than twice the size of the Early Ann, and about as early; of good quality, and a fortnight earlier than Coolidge's Favorite. The American Snow Peach has yellow wood, resembling the willow, and the fruit is of excellent quality. This was different from another Snow peach, sometimes found in the nurseries, which was good for nothing but preserving. Morris's White Rareripe, was as late as any good peach would come to perfection. The New York Red Cheek Malacatune, was one of the very best late varieties.

In reference to what had been said respecting the close planting of trees, Mr E. thought as a general practice it was not best, as the sun and free circulation of air were highly important, to bring fruit of any kind to perfection.

Dr. Shurtleff, of Brookline, said he washed his trees every year, with a solution of potash; the first year, he put in a pound to 10 quarts of water, which made it so strong that it turned the bark of his young trees yellow, and he was apprehensive that he had ruined them, but they survived: he afterwards put only 1-2 lb. of potash to the same quantity of water, for his young trees; but for old trees, with thick, rough bark, he used a solution of the full strength.

This wash destroys the bark scale as well as the green aphis or louse. He never scrapes his trees. To raise large stocks, it is necessary to take seeds from vigorous growing trees. He had planted the seed of a fast growing pear tree, and now the tree is 10 feet high; while a tree from the seed of a Seckel, planted at the same time, is only 3 feet.

Mr French, of Braintree, said he had set out an orchard of 6 acres on the inverted sod, without digging any holes, except scraping off a little of the poorest soil: upon this the tree was planted, and covered with the richest soil he could find, the upper roots not more than one inch deep. He does not water any, and thinks a tree does best without. He did not approve of staking, as the tree is liable to get galled; but in case the tree is crooked, it might be advisable to straighten it up to a stake, carefully securing it until it gets into better shape.

Mr F. said he had been misunderstood in relation to manuring about his trees in grass ground. He spreads the manure on the grass between the trees, and not round the trunk of the tree. He kept the ground dug for some distance round the tree. He found the roots of the trees extend twice the distance of their branches.

In relation to the use of potash water for the destruction of the borer, it might be an object, but thought it would be difficult to apply it to the limbs.

He had cultivated the high Blackberry, and had been well compensated. There were several varieties, which differed much in quality. He thought the long fruited variety the most suitable for cultivation. With regard to the Quince, he was acquainted with four varieties; but the Orange was the only sort he thought desirable.

In relation to grafting, it was much easier to make a graft live than it was to make it flourish. It was a nice point to set it right: if set cross-wise, it would barely live, but not make any progress. He thought the planting of coniferous trees should be deferred until they begin to grow. Apple trees might be forced into early bearing by grafting on the Paradise stock—Pears, by grafting on the Quince, &c. Apples might keep better when taken off early, but he did not believe the flavor was equal to that of those which remained longer on the tree.

He thought a compost saturated with salt ley, a capital dressing for an orchard, but that too much potash was injurious. In relation to close planting, he had known a small orchard to do well, which had the benefit of the wash from a cow-yard; but as a general rule, it was not advisable.

Dea. Leland, of Sherburne, said the deterioration of fruit was a subject of some importance: he believed in it, as he had proof of the theory, in the running out of a variety of apple formerly highly esteemed, but now worthless. He thought it was effected by grafting upon different stocks. In his opinion, apples were much superior when permitted to ripen on the tree. The fruit should be handled carefully, packed in barrels, and put into a cellar of low temperature, or near the freezing point, where air can be admitted or excluded, according to the state of the atmosphere.

Same subject continued to next meeting.

Pumpkins.—For the encouragement of others to go and do likewise, I would state that last season I planted a piece of corn for table use, just 3 rods in width by 5 in length, and as usual, planted one or more pumpkin seeds in every hill. The corn was tolerably good, but the pumpkins were so large and so abundant, that I carefully counted them when they were gathered, and found 824. The ground was so nearly covered with them that they became the subject of remark by most passers by, and the inquiry was often made how so great a crop was produced.

Something over a year since I had 120 barrels of night soil put upon three fourths of an acre (of which the above piece was a part) which, after being mixed with ashes, lime, and stable manure, was thoroughly incorporated with the soil; and this, I believe was the immediate cause of the extraordinary crops that I gathered. But there were plain indications in the fall that the manure had only begun its work, and hence I am expecting a more remarkable yield from that land the ensuing year.

Night soil is one of the strongest of manures, and farmers greatly overlook their interests when they neglect to avail themselves of it. In England it is held in such high estimation, that a class of men crave the privilege of collecting it from the cities and large towns, without expense to the owners of the premises, and after making it into a compost, sell it to farmers at very high prices. They often have scores of orders for it, long before they have ability to supply, and the demand is constantly increasing.—*Corr. Alb. Cult.*

MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Saturday, March 14, 1846.

Flowers.—From Messrs. Hovey & Co., Bourbon Roses, as follows—Souchet, Madam Souchet, Dumont du Courset, Bouquet of Flora, Hermosa, Crimson Globe. Hybrid Perpetuals: La Reine, Princess Helena, Mrs. Cripps. Hybrid Moss: Princess Adelaide, and other Roses.

From Walker & Co., one fine hand bouquet.

For the Committee,

Joseph Breck, Ch'mn.

Speaking of fuel, a writer in the Farmer's Monthly Visitor says:

It is time that we farmers all would reflect a little upon our own interests and comforts, the merited convenience of our own wives and daughters, and the preservation of good temper, and, withal, comfortable homes. The affair of fuel, dry, convenient, and prepared for the fire, is an everyday, every hour business. If cut in the winter and piled up in the woods, by the following month of November, about one-fourth of its weight will have dried away. Here is another important saving in the lightness of the load, or it may be increased in size. Then if put in order for use on stormy days, cheerfulness is promoted, economy in time, temper, and a saving in cold fingers.

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietor of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, to the week ending March 15.

March, 1846.	7, A.M.	12, M.	5, P.M.	Wind.
Monday, 9	31	38	37	N.
Tuesday, 10	23	40	31	E.
Wednesday, 11	22	44	40	S. W.
Thursday, 12	23	51	46	S.
Friday, 13	30	59	52	S.
Saturday, 14	52	59	50	S. E.
Sunday, 15	37	50	50	S. W.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, March 16, 1846.

Reported for the N. E. Farmer

At market 770 Beef Cattle, 25 pairs Working Oxen, 15 Cows and Calves, 1100 Sheep and 1500 Swine. 375 Beef Cattle, 600 Sheep and 900 Swine unsold at the close of the market.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.*—Prices have declined. We noticed 5 Cattle only sold for $6. We quote Extra $5,75. First quality $5,25 a $5,50. Second quality $4,75 a $5,00. Third quality $4,00 a $4,50.

Working Oxen.—Sales $55, $60, $78 and $90.

Cows and Calves.—Sales $22, $27, $30 and $32.

Sheep.—Sales were made at $3, $3,50, and a few very fine $6.

Swine.—A few lots were sold to peddle. Selected at 4 for Sows, 5 for Barrows. Large Barrow Hogs selected 4 3-4. At retail 4 1-2 and 5 1 2.

We noticed two beautiful heifers weighing about 2000 each, and an extraordinary Steer fed by Col. Sherwood, Auburn, N. Y. No sale effected.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, $2 00 a 2 50 per bushel. Red Top 65 to 70 cents. Clover—Northern, 11 to 11½c.—Southern, 10 a 00 c. Flax Seed. $1 50 per bushel. Lucerne, 33 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $2 25 a 2 50 per bushel. Millet, 1 75 to 2 00.

GRAIN. A moderate demand for Corn has existed the past week.

Corn—Northern, new, bushel 76 a 78—Southern, round yellow, 74 a 76—Southern flat yellow, 73 a 74—do. do. white 65 a 66—do New Orleans, 64 a 70—Barley 00 a 00—Rye, Northern, 83 a 85—do. Southern, 00 a 00—Oats Southern, 43 a 44—Northern do. 45 to 47—Beans, per bushel 1 37 a 1 50.—Shorts, per double bush. 50 a 55—Bran, 40 a 45.

FLOUR. There is a decided improvement in the market for all round hoop Flour.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. new, $0 00 a 5 12—do. wharf, $5 00 a 0 00—do. free of garlic, $0 00 a 0 00—Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $5 00 a 0 00—Fredericksburg, low P'd new $5 00 a 5 12—Alexandria, wharf, 5 00 a 5 12—Georgetown, $80 00 a 5 25—Extra do. 0 00 a 0 00—Richmond Canal, $5 12 a 0 00—do. City, $0 00 a 0 00—Petersburgh, City, $0 00 a 0 00—do. Country $0 00 a 0 00—Genesee, common, cash, $5 68 a 5 75—do fancy brands, $5 87 a 6 00—Ohio via Canal, $0 00 a 0 00—do do New Orleans, cash $5 00 a 5 25. Rye, $4 00 a 4 12—Indian Meal in bbls. $3 75 a 0 00.

PROVISIONS. There has been an increased demand for Mess and Prime Pork, and the sales of the week had nearly cleared the market before the last arrivals.

Beef—Mess 4 mo. new bbl. $8 50 a 9 00—Navy—$7 50 a 8 50.—No. 1, $0 00 a 0 00—do Prime $5 75 a 6 00—Pork—Extra clear 4 mo. bbl. $14 00 a 00 00—do Clear $00 00 a 13 50 do. Mess, $12 00 a 12 50—do Prime $10 00 a 10 50—do Mess from other States,— a — —do Prime do do $0 00 a 0 00 do. Cargo do. 0 00 a 0 00 —Clear do do $00 00 a 00 00—Butter, shipping, 10 a 11—do store, uninspected, 10 a 12—do dairy, 14 cts. a 18—Lard, No. 1, Boston ins. 7¼ a 7½—do South and Western, 7 a 7½—Hams, Boston, 7½ a 8—Southern and Western, 7 a 7½—Cheese, Ship'g and 4 meal 5½ a 6—do new milk, 7½ a 8.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 7 cts. per pound, 5 per cent. ad. val. All whereof the value exceeds 7 cts. per pound, 40 per et. ad. val. and 3 cts. per pound.

There has been a fair demand for the various qualities of domestic Wool the past week. The stock of fine fleece is very light.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 40 a 41 c.—American full blood, do 37 a 38—Do. 3-4 do 32 a 33—Do. 1-2 do 31 a 31 1-4 and common do 27 a 29 — Smyrna Sheep, washed, 18 a 20—Do. unwashed, 10 a 14—Bengasi do 6 a 12—Saxony, clean, 00—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do. picked, 10 a 13—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 33 a 36—No. 1 do. do. do. 27 a 30—No. 2 do do do 18 a 20—No. 3 do do do 14 a 16.

HOPS. Duty 20 per cent.

1st sort Mass. 1844, lb. 25 a 00 ; 2d do 00 a 00.

HAY, 20 to 00 per ton—Eastern Screwed $14 to 16.

EGGS, 15 to 18.

FRESH GARDEN SEEDS.

For sale at Nos. 51 and 52 North Market street, (up stairs,) an extensive assortment of

GARDEN, FIELD AND FLOWER SEEDS, viz.

EARLY PEAS.

Cedo Nulli.	Prince Albert.
Smith's Early.	Bishop's Dwarf.
Early Frame.	Blue Imperial, and many
Dwarf Marrowfat.	other fine varieties.

MELONS, OF SUPERIOR SORTS.

Netted Cantaloupe,	Persian.
Black Rock.	Nutmeg.
Minorca.	Green Citron, &c.
Skillman's Fine Rock.	

Cuthill's Early Frame Cucumber, White Spine, &c.

Seymour's White Solid Celery—Large Asiatic Cauliflower.

TOMATOES.

Large Red.	Cherry, or Grape, red and
Large Yellow.	yellow, &c.
Pear Shaped.	

Broccoli, of various sorts—Early Cabbages, and every variety of Seed for the Garden.

March 18. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

SUPERB VARIETIES OF FLOWER SEEDS.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. *Seedsmen and Florists*, No. 51 and 52 North Market street, (up stairs) have now received a full supply of fresh *FLOWER SEEDS* from the most celebrated Florists of Europe, from their own garden in Brighton and from other sources, of the most select varieties—ever offered in this country. Special attention has been given by the subscribers in long practice, in improving the numerous varieties of hardy Flowers, which have so long been the object of their cultivation, and they feel assured that the seeds saved by themselves, cannot be surpassed by any other growers in the country.

Among some of the choice seeds are the following, viz:

Extra fine Verbena seeds, raised by an amateur in this country, from a bed of seedling, of 40 different varieties of every color and shade, price per package.	25
Extra fine Double Picotee and Carnation Pink seed, saved from a bed of 50 fine double varieties, (Breck & Co's. best.)	25
Extra Double Carnation seed from fine named Florists Flowers (imported,)	25
Extra double Picotee Pink seed from fine named double Flowers (imported)	25
Fine Carnation and Picotee Pink seed,	12½
Extra Double Florists Pink seed, from choice named Flowers (imported)	25
Double Chinese Imperial Pink seed, raised in this country from a bed of 50 or more fine varieties,	12½
Phlox Drummondii, mixed colors, embracing scarlet, crimson, purple, rose, pink, and variegated varieties,	12½
Calceolarias, mixed varieties, from fine named sorts,	25
Pansy seed, from a collection of named sorts,	25
Geraniums, from a great variety of fine named sorts,	25
Petunia seed, from a great variety of fine mixed, variegated and other sorts,	12½
Double Hollyhock seed, in boxes containing sixteen distinct varieties,	75
German Asters, of the most improved and splendid sorts, in boxes of 12 beautiful varieties,	75
Annual and perennial Lupins, in boxes, containing 16 distinct species and varieties, many of them most superb,	75
Goodetias and Œnotheras in boxes, 10 best varieties and species,	50
Russian and other ten week stock, 20 distinct varieties,	1,00
Ditto 10 ditto ditto	50
A collection of 20 best varieties of Annual Flower seeds,	1,00
Ditto 40 varieties of Annual and Perennial Flower seeds,	2,00
Boxes containing a choice collection of 100 varieties of Annual and Perennial Flower seeds,	4,00
Polyanthus seed from fine named sorts, per package,	25
Auricula ditto	25
Didiscus cœrulea,	12½
Brachycome Iberidifolia,	25
Mimulus—8 varieties,	75
Do. single paper,	12½
Double Balsams, 10 superb varieties,	62½
Four varieties fine Candytuft,	25
Six " sweet Peas,	37
Four " wall Flower,	25
Four " Schizanthus,	25

Also, other fine varieties, too numerous to mention, embracing a rare collection of more than 400 varieties. Catalogues may be had on application.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

FARMER WANTED.

Wanted a good Farmer, (an American,) with a small family, to take charge of a Farm in Brookline. Apply to EBENEZER FRANCIS, No. 60, State street.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. have for sale a large assortment of choice *FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES*, which they offer to the public at reasonable rates. As they are Agents for many of the best Nurseries and Gardens in the vicinity of the city, they can execute any order that they may be favored with. From their own Nurseries they can furnish the best varieties of Apple, Pear, Cherry, Plum, Peach, Apricot, Nectarine, Quince, Grape, Gooseberry, Currants, &c. Also, Ornamental Plants, of every description. Boston, March 11, 1846.

TRACE CHAINS, &c.

Just received per ship "Sunbeam," from Liverpool, a large assortment of Fence, Trace, Halter and Dog CHAINS, of every description.

Also, per "Mary Ann," from Liverpool, a large assortment of splendid *GARDEN SHEARS, FLOWER GATHERERS, BRIAR HOOKS, NORWAY RAG STONES*, &c. and

For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, by JOSEPH BRECK & CO,
March 18. No. 51 and 52 N. Market street.

GUANO.

The cargo of the ship Talma, from Madagas Island, will be sold in any quantity desired, put up in bags or barrels, or in bulk, if preferred. The analysis of this cargo by J. E. Teschemacher, Esq., can be seen by applying to

March 18. 8w MAGOUN & SON, 66 State street.

PRINCE'S LINNÆAN BOTANIC GARDEN AND NURSERIES,

Flushing, near New York.

WILLIAM R. PRINCE & CO. offer for sale their unrivalled collection of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, &c. The entire Fruit Department is carefully scrutinized by them personally, and ingrafted from the largest collection of bearing specimen trees in the Union, and they challenge a comparisou in accuracy with any establishment in America or Europe. Purchasers are solicited to inspect their Trees and witness their superiority in size and vigor. The pre-eminence claimed can be readily tested by sending duplicate orders to them and to any other Nursery. They have 3000 extra sized Pears, on Pear and on Quince, 8 to 12 feet with heads, very strong and suitable for immediate bearing, and 10,000 Pears, 5 to 8 feet, and 2000 for Dwarfs or *en Quenouille*. Also, Plums and Apricots on Plum of the same sizes, and a large stock of Baldwin and other Apples, Cherries and Peaches, the latter very low by the hundred and thousand; 10,000 Quinces 3 to 6 feet; 5000 Lancashire Gooseberries assorted; Victoria and other Currants; Fastolf, Franconia and other Raspberries at low rates. Of Grapes the assortment comprises all the most celebrated and *carefully selected* foreign varieties for the table, and all the American varieties. The collection of Roses is the largest in the Union, and comprises 70,000 Plants of 1300 splendid varieties, embracing every novelty that could be selected from ten of the largest collections in Europe, and the plants are much larger than usually sold. 10,000 Magnolias—3 to 10 feet; 20,000 evergreen Trees, of every class and size; 50,000 Hawthorns and Privets for hedge; 50,000 large Dutch Asparagus and 5000 Tobolsk, Victoria and Levinthan Rhubarb. Of Ornamental Trees they have above 200,000 of every size and class, including 1000 splendid Pawlownia Imperials, 6 to 8 feet. The purchaser may save two years by the superior size of their Trees and Shrubberry. Priced Catalogues sent to every *post paid* applicant.

March 2, 1846.

Guano! Guano!

Just received and for sale in lots to suit purchasers, 20 tons African and South American Guano, of superior quality, the best ever brought into this market. The African, which is part of the cargo of the brig Samos was analyzed by one of the first chemists of this country, and pronounced to be of the first quality; it has been fairly tested by many of the farmers and gardeners in the vicinity of Boston, and has fully equalled their highest expectations. We can fully recommend the South American, which has also been carefully analyzed, and found to be a splendid article, and very superior, being free from stones and hard substances. For sale by the ton, bbl. or bag. Orders addressed to JOSEPH BRECK & CO., 51 and 52 North Market street, will be promptly attended to.

Boston, March 25, 1845.

FARM FOR SALE,

Situated in Newton, on the Worcester Turnpike, about seven miles from Boston. Said Farm contains about fifty-five acres of good land. Has a two story House, Barn, Sheds, &c. A part or the whole will be sold, with or without the Buildings. For terms, &c. apply to the owner living upon the premises, or to C. Aiken, No. 56, South street, Boston. WILLIAM AIKEN.

Feb. 11, 1846. pd. 2m. i. s.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Think.—Thought engenders thought. Place one idea upon paper—another will follow it, and still another, until you have written a page. You cannot fathom your mind. There is a well of thought there which has no bottom. The more you draw from it, the more clear and fruitful it will be. If you neglect to think yourself, and use other people's thoughts, you will never know what you are capable of. At first, your ideas may come out in lumps—homely and shapeless; but no matter—time and perseverance will arrange and polish them. Learn to *think*, and you will soon learn to *write*—and the more you think, the better will you express your ideas.—*Selected.*

Modern Poetry.—The following delectable little morsel is an extract from a "poem," furnished by a correspondent of the Northern Cabinet, over the signature of "Synonymous." The poets are not *all* dead!

"thare was a man in canada
a cobble er by trade
he married him a hansum wife
And after words she Died

he marred next a buty
hur cheeks were like the rose
hur eyes like sparkling Dimons
True vurtur did discloes.

they settled down in stockholm
upon a piece of land
and thare they bilt all for there use
a log house And a barn.

In just about 3 mounts from this
there was a nouther cry
that he had giv her pisun stuf
Oll for to make hur dy."

Qualifications for a Lawyer.—The St. Louis Gazette tells a story of a mother taking her youngest son to a lawyer to learn the trade, as he was so much better qualified for the profession than either of the elder ones. On being questioned as to his qualifications, the old lady replied: "Why, sir, when he was only five years old, he would *lie* like all natur; when he got to be six, he was as saucy and impudent as any critter could be, and now, he *will take every thing he can lay his hands on!*"

THE ANSWER.

An old man toiled one genial day,
To plant some forest trees:
His scanty locks of silver grey
Were floating in the breeze:

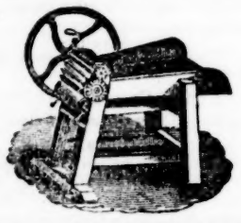
"Why toil'st thou thus, my aged friend?
Why labor with such zest?
Before those plants their arms extend,
Thou'lt surely be at rest."

The old man gently raised his head,
My features he surveyed,
And thus in smiling accents said,
While leaning on his spade—

"Unto the world this debt I owe,
And now repay with glee,
For those who sleep in peace below,
Have planted trees for me."

An Irish veterinary student, while undergoing his examination, previous to his receiving the necessary qualification to practice, was asked what he would recommend if there was a horse brought to him with a particular disease.

"Och! by the powers," was the answer, "I would recommend the owner to get rid of him immadately."



GREEN'S PATENT STRAW CUTTER.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52 North Maket Street, have for sale, Green's Patent Straw, Hay and Stalk Cutter, operating on a mechanical principle not before applied to any implement for this purpose. The most prominent effects of this application, and some of the consequen peculiarities of the machine are:

1. So great a reduction of the quantum of power requisite to use it, that the strength of a half grown boy is sufficient to work it efficiently.
2. With even this moderate power, it easily cuts two bushels a minute, which is full twice as fast as has been claimed by any other machine even when worked by horsee or steam power.
3. The knives, owing to the peculiar manner in which they cut, require sharpening less often than those of any other straw cutter.
4. The machine is simple in its construction, made and put together very strongly. It is therefore not so liable as the complicated machines in general use to get out of order.

HOWARD'S PREMIUM SUBSOIL PLOWS.

The sub-oil Plow is unquestionably the most importan agricultural implement of modern invention. It is considered by the best informed practical farmers of Great Britain and our own country, as an indispensable article in the most profitable husbandry. Says that eminently skilful and intelligent agriculturist, Mr. Phinney, of Lexington: "such is the estimate in which I hold this important implement, that I should consider it a great piece of improvidence to put in a crop without first subsoiling the ground." The subsoil Plows manufactured by Mr. Howard, are of two sizes—the smaller obtained the highest premium offered by the State Agricultural Society at its late exhibition at Worcester. The committee to award the premium on Subsoil Plows, in their report say:—"The committee were pleased with the neatness and firmness of structure of these Plows—characteristics which have distinguished all the Plows of Mr. Howard that have come within their observation. *Utility* and not *show*, are their peculiar features. * * They were astonished to find with what ease and perfection the hard pan could be stirred, and broken to the depth and width of 8 or 9 inches, for such was the operation of the medium size Plows, with a power not exceeding that ordinarily required for moving a surface Plow at the same depth—and they found the Plow might be guided with less labor ahd fatigue than the surface Plow. * * They confidently recommend the subsoil Plow to the attention of the farmers of the Commonwealth"

The improvement in the length of the handles of Mr. Howard's Plows, suggested by the committee, has been made—and the undersigned are now prepared to furnish these invaluable implements wholesale and retail.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

N. E. Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 & 52, North Market Street, Boston.

ESSAY ON GUANO.

For sale at Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, Teschemacher's Essay on Guano,—describing its properties and the best methods of its application in Agriculture and Horticulture, with the value of importations from different localities; founded on actual analyses, and on personal experiments upon numerous kinds of trees, vegetables, flowers, &c. Price 25 cents. J. BRECK & CO.

GRINDSTONES ON FRICTION ROLLERS.

Grindstones of different sizes hung on friction rollers and moved with a foot treader, are found to be a great improvement on the old mode of hanging grindstones. Stones hung in this manner are becoming daily more in use and wherever used, give universal satisfaction. The rollers can be attached to stones hung in the common way. For sale by J. BRECK & Co. No. 51 North Market street.

MARTIN'S MASSACHUSETTS PREMIUM EAGLE PLOWS.

The subscribers have for sale at their extensive Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 & 52 N. Market street, *MARTIN'S MASSACHUSETTS PREMIUM IMPROVED EAGLE PLOWS.*

Mr. Martin's Plows combine new and important improvements adapting them to the different qualities of soil and the various modes and systems of culture. His Eagle Plows, as improved, are much longer, the mouldboard, landside and point, or share, all extended without any addition to the width or heel in its work; thus adapting this Plow to the more perfect turning under of the greensward, and inverting of the furrow-slice, so desirable in greensward plowing. The principle of these Plows is such, from where the furrow-slice is received upon the mouldboard to where it leaves it, that it enables the Plow to take up the furrow-slice with the greatest possible ease, bearing equally and lightly over the whole surface of the mouldboard, turning it over with the least possible bending or twisting, and preserving it flat, smooth and unbroken, laying the furrow-slices closely and compactly side by side, and creating but slight friction upon the face of the mouldboard in passing through the soil. Thus the Plow requires but very little power of draft beyond what is necessary to cut out the furrow-slice.

In testing the quality of Plows, the power by which it is moved, the ease with which it is handled, and the manner in which it completes the work, are three important points, all of which are wisely, accurately and judiciously preserved in these improved Plows.

The character of these Plows for ease of draft and management, and the excellence of their work, though well established in the minds of the farming community, were most fully and satisfactorily exhibited to the public at the grand trial of Plows by the Massachusetts Agricultural Society, at Worcester, October 9th, 1844, whose able and impartial committee awarded the highest premium of $50 to B. Martin, for the best Plow, for doing the best work with the least draft, in a trial open to the whole Union—this Plow running in its natural course, and keeping its true position, without any effort of the plowman, and turning a furrow 12 inches wide and 6 inches deep, with a much less draft than any other Plow on the ground.

These Plows, as improved, are considered to be nearest to perfection of any implements of the kind in this country, as well in respect to material and workmanship, as in form of construction.

At the late Cattle-Show and Plowing-Match of the Worcester County Agricultural Society, in the heart of that most valuable agricultural county, B. Martin's Plow received the highest and most enthusiastic commendation from intelligent and experienced practical farmers, who know and are the most competent judges.

His castings are of a superior kind, the workmanship not inferior to any other Plows in this country, and his timber being the very best of white oak; and every farmer knows that good timber in his Plows is of the utmost importance—all of which in fact renders B. Martin's Plow the very article every farmer wants. The high character of these Plows is abundantly sustained by a continued and extended patronage, which the manufacturer hopes by his efforts and exertions to retain. Being himself an experienced Plow-Maker, he will not spare any exertions in order to render his Plows a superior article.

Gentlemen are requested to call and examine these Plows before they purchase. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, March 24.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within sixty days.

Remittances, *not exceeding ten dollars*, at any *one time*, may be made as follows:—A subscriber owes us two or eight dollars, which he wishes to remit us. He will pay this amount to the Post Master *in his own town*, and take his *receipt* for it, as money paid him on *our* account. He will then send that *receipt*, enclosed in a letter, *to us*. We pass it to the Post Master in Boston, and get the money for it. This arrangement does away with nearly the whole risk of making remittance, and puts every subscriber in possession of "suitable funds" for that purpose.

TUTTLE AND DENNETT, PRINTERS
21 SCHOOL STREET.